

VERMONT TRANSCRIPT.

ST. ALBANS.

Friday, April 8, 1864.

UNION NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The undersigned, who, by mutual agreement, have organized themselves into the Executive Committee of the National Convention, held at Chicago on the 16th day of May, 1863, hereby call upon all qualified voters who desire the unconditional maintenance of the Union, the supremacy of the Constitution, and the complete suppression of the existing rebellion, with the same thereof, to send delegates to a convention to be held at BURLINGTON, ON TUESDAY, THE SEVENTH DAY OF JUNE, 1864, at 12 o'clock, noon, for the purpose of presenting candidates for the office of President and Vice President of the United States. Each State having a representation in Congress will be entitled to send as many delegates as shall be equal to its representation in the Electoral College of the United States.

EDWIN D. MOHAN, New York, Chairman.
CHARLES L. GILMAN, Maine.
J. B. BURNETT, Vermont.
J. Z. GOODRICH, Massachusetts.
THEODORE T. TERRY, New England.
GIDEON WELLS, Connecticut.
And 16 others.

STATE OF VERMONT.
A PROCLAMATION.

As a fitting occasion for the people of this State annually to humble themselves before Almighty God, and in observance of a custom which finds its sanction and its growth in the religious faith of the Christian world, I do hereby appoint Tuesday, the SEVENTH DAY OF APRIL NEXT, to be observed as a day of PUBLIC FASTING, HUMILIATION AND PRAYER.

And I do earnestly invite the people of the State, on that day, to lay aside all secular employment, and to assemble in their accustomed places of worship to offer to the great Father of nations their humble prayer, confessing before Him their sins and iniquities, and as communities, and in individual prayer, seeking forgiveness through a crucified Saviour.

Let us devoutly seek the blessing upon us as a Commonwealth, that He will give us the genial influence of the sun and rain, that He will bestow upon the labor of the husbandman and the planter, and upon the commerce of the sea, and upon all our individual pursuits, an abundant reward; and above all, that He will bestow upon the presence of His Holy Spirit, quickening our faith, strengthening our hopes, and inspiring us to new truth and more just conception of the holiness, and of our dependence upon Him.

Let us likewise seek the blessing upon us as a nation, and beseech Him to grant us, in His favor, that He will grant wisdom to all in authority, that He will grant success to our arms, and victory, and cover the year with an enduring peace.

Let us seek His blessing upon the brave Soldiers, that whether in the camp or on the field of battle, in the hospital or in the prison, they may be comforted and sustained, and having accomplished their sacred duty, return to their families and homes.

Thus may our fast be one, "such as the Lord hath chosen," that our hearts may be united in the morning, that our righteous anger may go forth, and that the glory of the Lord may be our reward.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the State, in Executive Chamber at St. Albans, this twenty-second day of March, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty-Four, and of the Independence of the United States, the Eighty-Eighth.

J. GREGORY SMITH,
By His Excellency the Governor,
SAMUEL WILLIAMS,
Sec. of Civil and Military Affairs.

WENDELL PHILLIPS AT ST. ALBANS.

The notice heretofore given in our columns and elsewhere that Wendell Phillips, the distinguished abolitionist and orator, would deliver his address on "Reconstruction," at St. Albans, March 31st, attracted a large audience to Academy Hall on Thursday evening. Five or six hundred persons were, probably, present and Mr. Phillips was listened to with marked interest and attention. Mr. Phillips' appearance, his dress and address, his voice and manner, his graceful gestures and his apt illustrations can hardly be properly described. They indicated more forcibly than words could express the finished orator and the high-toned and earnest-minded gentleman. We shall attempt to present no original abstract of his lecture. A reference to some of the leading thoughts of his discourse, however, we give in the language of one of our contemporaries the *Vermont Phoenix*: "His subject—'Reconstruction'—he discussed fully and with great force of argument. The conflict in which we are engaged is not simply a conflict of arms; it is a conflict of ideas; a conflict of freedom and slavery; of free, rewarded labor, and forced, unpaid labor; of democracy and aristocracy; and as the aristocracy of the South have appealed from argument and the ballot-box to powder and ball we were obliged to meet them with their own chosen weapons, and there can be no permanent peace until one party or the other conquers. As to the final result, Mr. Phillips said he had no doubt. The North have justice, physical force, and persistence on their side, and they are sure of victory in the end. But to secure the desired result, to have a peace that shall last, New England ideas, New England civilization, free schools, compensated labor and the ballot-box must be introduced everywhere in the South as permanent institutions. No vestige of slavery must be allowed to survive. Equal rights must be secured to all, irrespective of color or race. By the President's proclamation and the progress of our arms, slavery has already received its death blow; but it may survive for a long time, and yet do much mischief unless it is promptly and righteously dealt with. It becomes then a matter of great moment to pursue such a policy of re-admitting the seceded States into the Union as shall prevent the friends and upholders of slavery from getting control of, or having influence in, the national government during the next administration; and it becomes the urgent duty of the people to select as their next candidate for the next Presidency, not only a man who desires to have the policy indicated carried out, but the wisest, strongest and best man that the country affords. The pilot of the national ship must not only be an honest man, but he must understand the currents, the tides, the breakers, and be able to

guide the ship with a firm hand and a resolute will. We shall have an enormous debt weighing upon us like a mill-stone; a burden not only to this but succeeding generations. This will be a source of perplexity and danger. We shall also be exposed to the influence of foreign powers. The monarchies and aristocracies of the old world are jealous of our power and greatness. They would rejoice to see the sun of this young Republic set in darkness and night. Our success in this great struggle for free institutions would encourage the down-trodden masses of Europe to strike for freedom, and their throats would be in peril. Hence our danger from their interference. When peace comes we shall have a vast army to be disbanded, thousands of men seeking places of honor and profit. And then the remoulding the society and institutions of the South will require great sagacity and consummate statesmanship, as well as a vast emigration into that region of intelligent men and women, who shall plant the school-house to teach the masses their rights, carry the ballot-box to secure to them their rights, and the system of free labor, making labor not only remunerative but honorable also. These were some of the leading ideas of Mr. Phillips' lecture, amplified, illustrated and presented with great beauty and force, and which, we presume, met with the hearty approval of the audience."

Mr. Phillips' criticisms of the present administration, his approbation of prominent men such as Butler, Fremont and Phelps, any one of whom he thought able to grace the presidential chair, but few would probably very heartily endorse. Mr. Phillips is an extremist in his opinions; but the manner of his presenting them is very attractive and impressive. He is one of the foremost among American orators and those who heard him at Academy Hall last Thursday evening, if not convinced of the soundness of his views of men and measures, were delighted with the dignified and elegant manner of the accomplished lecturer. Without any intrusion upon the proprieties of private life, it is proper to add that Mr. Phillips lives in a quiet and unostentatious manner in the house in Essex street, Boston, which was formerly occupied by his father, John Phillips, the first Mayor of Boston. The word "Phillips" is painted in black letters upon the door of his mansion, the interior of which is plain and unpretending. There Mr. Phillips resides in the enjoyment of a fortune which he inherited. He spends his life in this quiet spot from which constantly radiate acts of benevolence, putting aside all forms of ambition and, in his total abnegation of self, seeking how he can best and most thoroughly promote the well-being of his fellow-men.

Perhaps it may not be irrelevant to say that those who know Mr. Phillips only in his public life and have seen him only upon the platform where they have been charmed by his quiet, classic oratory, can form no idea of his rare gifts as a conversationalist, nor of that remarkable fidelity to the various duties of life which characterizes him.

RAIDS—THEIR ORIGIN AND INFLUENCE, No. 2.

Now such raids as we have lately had can do nothing for a result like this. They have only carried the war for a brief season to the homes of the people of the South, and spread its desolations over regions inhabited only by women and children, and men too old to fight. It is true they have destroyed many miles of railroad, and public property of the enemy wherever they found it; but the result which stands out most conspicuously in the extent of the country they have laid waste, and the numerous population they have left without subsistence. We shall be glad to learn that all this, and the incidental calamities and outrages it involves, have been compensated by any crippling of resources, or other detriment they occasioned to the real enemy—the Government at Richmond and the armies in the field in support of the rebellion.

But the enterprises of this kind—whatever be their ostensible objects—afford opportunities for lawless violence and private rapine which are at variance with the legitimate agencies of a just war among civilized men. They involve the loyal and disloyal, the rich and poor—those who might be friends and those who will only be foes, in a common and indiscriminate devastation. They everywhere set at defiance the doctrine, which has long been recognized by civilized states, of the immunity of private property on the land, and especially of the exemption of the agricultural classes of a people from the needless and wanton depredations of war. Complaint has often been made of the recklessness of the rebels in this and other similar matters, and we all remember the feelings with which we beheld them, a

few months ago, ravaging the most fertile fields of Pennsylvania, burning private houses and industrial establishments, and stripping whole communities of the harvests and the cattle they contained. What we condemn in them we cannot hope to justify in ourselves. War thus waged loses the only proper character it can ever have, and becomes a mere struggle for revenge and retaliation.

There is danger also that these incursions, thus terminating in the mere destruction of private estates and the ruin of the non-combatant population, will, after all, prolong the war. If there be divisions among the people of the South, such agencies will be sure to heal them. Wherever there is hatred of the Union, that hatred will be increased, and wherever there is a loyal attachment, it will be likely to be destroyed. We know not how much truth there is in the rebel accounts of Gen. Kilpatrick's recent raid to Richmond. We trust many of them are false, and especially that the papers ascribed to Col. Dahlgren are fabrications. If they are genuine, they are sufficient of themselves to condemn the expedition, though nothing can justify the brutal indignities which the rebels claim to have visited upon the body of that gallant young officer. The masses at the South, however, will believe that he intended "to kill Jeff. Davis and his cabinet," instead of making them prisoners; and they will imagine to themselves a new occasion for exasperation, and for a more united prosecution of the war.

In a civil strife like ours—especially in one of so gigantic proportions—there is always danger that vengeful passions will acquire the ascendancy, and that the war will be prosecuted by means of agencies at variance with the interests of civilization. It is not easy to condemn that which injures our enemy and brings him to grief. But we must not forget that, even if he has no rights which we are bound to respect, we ourselves have a character which we must not forfeit. In no emergency of war are we at liberty to do what we shall not be able to justify in peace and to vindicate in history. A bad precedent is sure to react upon those who establish it, and a national crime has consequences that last through ages. The British, in the war of 1812, ruthlessly burned the public buildings at Washington and the archives which they contained, but they have ever since been ashamed of the vandal act. Let not public opinion among ourselves lose sight of the national honor, or become indifferent to the claims of humanity. War, even in the holiest cause, is always degrading enough, and never fails to harden the hearts of a people; but let us, if possible, so conduct it that impartial history shall record no deeds of needless cruelty or guilty shame on pages filled with the labors of philanthropy, the achievements of patriotic courage, and the principles of justice and freedom.

THE NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The New York *Evening Post* claims with several influential papers, that the Republican Executive Committee erred in calling the Union National Convention at the time and place they did. It is said that Columbus, Cincinnati or Louisville would have been more central; but the place is of minor importance compared with the question of the time.

The *Post* in the following extracts gives some urgent reasons for stating that the seventh of June is too early a date for the beginning of the presidential campaign:

In the first place, the entire and undivided energy of the nation, during the coming spring and up into the summer months at least, ought to be devoted to the furtherance of the military operations, and to nothing else. It is clear to every man who thinks at all, that the rebels mean to make their final and most desperate trial of arms during this spring season. They have spent the whole winter in preparing for it; they have concentrated all their people, gathered together all their supplies, enumerated their slaves to the garrisons and trenches, and even "re-pudiated" the currency which embarrasses them, in order to make this last and decisive effort. Their army is mainly composed of veterans, and is, to say the least, three hundred thousand strong; it has subsistence for the summer and is ably commanded as every one admits who knows Lee, Johnson, Longstreet and Hill. Besides, it has been taught wisdom by the lessons of the past, and will make no more foolish expeditions into Ohio and Pennsylvania, will fight no more pitched battles in which half its numbers may be lost without result, but will confine itself to such offensive-defensive operations as will protract the struggle over another year, or, at any rate, until after the presidential election.

The rebels no longer hope to whip us, but they do hope to weary us out, and to render the war so burdensome and odious as to bring serious divisions at the North. If we would detect that policy, therefore, we must over-whelm and crush them at once by our superior numbers and vigor; we must not permit them to dictate the style of the war, but "move upon their works," as General Grant would say, with a

resolute impetuosity and earnestness. Need it be remarked, however, that we shall not do so if each state, county and township is to be distracted this spring by political meetings held to nominate the various classes of delegates, and still more distracted all summer by the noise and turmoil of an active political canvass. For our part we should be glad to hear nothing of politics—neither of candidates nor of platforms—until the middle of next August at the earliest. We want every man, woman and child to give time, thought and labor up to that date to some active furtherance of the war, which is imperative, on a thousand grounds, to bring it to an end by the 4th of July.

In the second place, it is not good policy to nominate a candidate to represent your cause while the fate or the character of that cause is to some degree in doubt. The almost universal impression is that, as matters now stand, Mr. Lincoln will be re-nominated to the presidency. His administration, though it has fallen into some dreadful blunders, as in the retention of such men as McClellan and Halleck in command and committed some gross wrongs in its "arbitrary arrests," has yet been, on the whole, successful and fair that it inspires more confidence than any other administration is likely to do. People say that Mr. Lincoln is slow, but he is safe. If he lags behind the best public sentiment, he yet aims at it, and contrives to reach it often, which is preferred to not reaching it at all, on the principle that a half-dozen is better than no bread. Should our affairs continue to prosper, then, Mr. Lincoln will continue in the favor he now enjoys. Should they be the reverse of this spring, he will be crowded with brilliant and decisive achievements in the field, that favor will become both enthusiastic and unanimous. But if they should not be well conducted, if, instead of meeting success this spring, we shall encounter only reverses and calamities, would Mr. Lincoln then be the proper standard bearer of the loyal party? Would not the occurrence of such reverses, after all the preparations we have made and in spite of the acknowledged fact that we have more fighting men in the field than the rebels by two to one, be a proof of such incompetency, or carelessness, or neglect, as ought to be rebuked, rather than rewarded? At any rate, in the event of the failure, this spring, of those who now manage our military operations, ought not the loyal party to be left free to choose other more able and active agents? We do not, of course, anticipate any recovery on the contrary, we believe that Grant will annihilate or disperse the rebel armies; and yet it is the part of political wisdom to be prepared for all contingencies.

We trust, then, that the National Executive Committee will reconsider its call, or if it cannot be got together again, that the loyal members of Congress, of all parties, may devise some mode of deferring the Convention to the first of September.

DEATH OF GEN. WADSWORTH.

We regret to hear of the death of Gen. Horace Wadsworth, of South Hero, Grand Isle county, of typhoid fever, aged 64. Gen. Wadsworth has been a prominent man in Grand Isle county for several years and by his kindness of heart and active benevolence, had endeared himself to a large and ever widening circle of friends.

Gen. Wadsworth was a native of South Hero, and always resided in Grand Isle county. He was a merchant for many years in the place of his nativity as well as in North Hero. He married the daughter of the late Abner Keeler, who died nearly a year ago, childless. Gen. Wadsworth served as a Representative in the General Assembly from North Hero in 1839-40, and 1841, and in his political sentiments was a Jacksonian democrat. He was ardently attached to the order of Free and Accepted Masons and, at his death, was the Master of the "Isle of Patmos" Lodge of North Hero.

Gen. Wadsworth leaves a large estate to be divided among two sisters and a brother who survive him. He will be buried with Masonic honors at South Hero on Fast-day April 7th, at noon, and a sermon will be preached on the occasion by the Rev. J. O. Skinner, of St. Albans.

The character of the deceased as well as of the funeral services, will undoubtedly draw together a large concourse to pay due respect to the memory of the large-hearted and benevolent Horace Wadsworth, of South Hero.

TAXATION OF U. S. SECURITIES.—The U. S. House of Representatives has adopted the following preamble and resolution:

WHEREAS, The law exempts U. S. Bonds from taxation thus enabling corporations and individuals to withdraw a large amount of personal estate from taxation and escape their just share of burdens which are thrown chiefly on real estate.

Resolved, That the Committee on ways and means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so changing the law as not to exempt such bonds from State and Municipal taxation.

VERMONTERS IN RICHMOND.—Capt. Dillingham of the 10th Vermont, recently released from Libby Prison, furnishes the following names of Vermont officers who were there March 21st: Maj. Josiah Hall, 1st Vermont Cavalry; Capt. Robert Seasholtz, ditto; Capt. C. A. Adams, ditto; Capt. Wm. M. Beaman, of St. Albans, ditto; Lieut. Eli Holden, ditto; Lieut. L. L. Stone, 2d Vt. Infantry.

NEWS SUMMARY.

A petition is to be presented to the New York legislature to make the New York free Academy a free college.

Philadelphia offers \$1,000,000 for buildings if Pennsylvania will move the State capital there from Harrisburg.

While the recent vote in Arkansas is said to reach 17,000 only 4,400 was required by the president's amnesty plan.

A concert lately given by Mrs. August Belmont of New York in her own house, for the sanitary commission, netted \$1,500.

A male infant not over two days old was found at Albany the other day, murdered with a hatchet and cut up into fourteen pieces.

Three hundred and forty-seven national banks so far with capital of \$45,500,000. Great opposition to a bankrupt bill in Congress.

Americans in Europe and their friends have given about \$75,000 to the sanitary commission, including contributions to the New York fair.

A new secret order has been organized in Illinois, whose object is the election of a copperhead president, and failing in that, civil war in the North.

Columbia College, New York, is about to follow the example of Harvard, Yale and Dartmouth in the establishment of a scientific department, to be called a school of applied sciences.

August Belmont, the New York banker and chairman of the national democratic committee, is going to open his private picture gallery for the whole of next week in aid of the sanitary commission.

The American Freedmen's Friend society of New York is about to undertake the education of colored persons, for the purpose of sending them South to instruct the freed people. Applications for the position of teachers are called for.

An officer at Philadelphia arrested a man for burglary the other day, and then turned him over to another officer for safe keeping. The burglar turned upon his keeper, put four pistol-balls through his back and shoulders and made his escape.

The National Intelligencer good-naturedly laughs at Solicitor Whiting for saying that Hannibal, the great Carthaginian general, was a negro, and expresses the fear that the solicitor is not much stronger in history than he is in constitutional law.

Frank Wood, who died at Bayreuth, N. J., last Saturday, was a man of marked editorial merit and prominence. He had been connected with *Vanity Fair*, *Willow*, *Spirit of the Times* and the *Journal of Commerce*, and lately rendered assistance in preparing a popular drama.

Lieutenant-General Grant expressed himself well pleased with the appearance of things in Gen. Butler's department. He says Gen. Butler's ideas as to the prosecution of the war are entirely in harmony with his own. He goes to the front to-morrow.

General W. F. Smith will not be attached to the Army of the Potomac as its commander, as a staff officer or in any other capacity, but will have an independent command in a quarter which cannot now properly be indicated. He did not return from Fortress Monroe with Gen. Grant.

Gen. Butler and Commissioner Old have settled all but one of the points of difference relative to the exchange of prisoners. Mr. Old agrees to the exchange of men for men, but insists that the agreement shall not include the officers and men of negro regiments. General Butler insists that they serve under the same flag they are entitled to the same treatment as other United States soldiers. Here the conference meets an apparently insurmountable obstacle.

There is reason to believe that the testimony taken by the committee on the conduct of the war relating to the campaigns of Gettysburg and Mine Run has decidedly helped rather than injured Gen. Meade's reputation with those who have heard or read the evidence.

The National bank bill moves slowly through the committee of the whole. Comparatively few even of the moiety present take much interest in the proceedings. Some of the most experienced members now predict the defeat of the bill altogether if pressed to a final passage. If passed it will be by a small majority, as the opposition in a body will unite with the friends of the State banks on the Republican side.

The New Bedford Mercury, speaking of a proposition that people should eat their bread without butter on account of its high price, comes to the conclusion of the love-lost poet:—

"Give me but food,
And I'll eat the rainbow."

Messrs. T. W. Park and Seth B. Hunt, Esqs., of Bennington, have purchased a building in that town, and will fit it up in excellent shape, putting in a library on the hall floor, and deed it direct—building and all—to the village. The entire cost of the building will foot up \$10,000.

The current reports about the authorship of various documents bearing the President's signature are denied, the President claiming them as his own compositions, including the emancipation proclamation.

Since the death of Hon. Owen Lovejoy, whose sickness was attributed by himself to the bad air and ventilation of the Representative Chamber, there is talk of making changes which will open a communication between the Chamber and the outer air. John Randolph says that the old Chamber had an atmosphere such as nothing but the wretched animals, plunged into the Grotto del Cano, near Naples, were capable of breathing. The new chamber is still worse.

Gen. Grant has set his face against reviews, soirees, and other elegant pastimes, and his initiatory steps clearly indicate that he suppresses armies for fighting and not for holiday parades and dancing.

An expatriated Illinois copperhead, who has been neglected in the matter of numbers and education, writes from Kingston, Canada, to his friends at home a long and profane epistle in which the following sentence occurs: "Expect to live her full Jefferson and the authors an asphyxiated whip old Abe and his army."

The Prince of Wales' baby was baptized recently in St. James' chapel, London, wearing the same christening robes worn by his father twenty-one years ago. His Royal Highness screamed lustily, it is said. Albert Victor of Wales is his name.

Mrs. White, a sister of the wife of President Lincoln, recently reached Atlanta, Ga., from Washington, and the rebel papers report that she smuggled through the lines a rebel uniform, the buttons of which were of gold, and worth \$1000.

The Richmond *Whig*, in discussing various plans for annoying the Yankees, says: "We may not, it is true, be able to send a raiding party to dash into Philadelphia or New York to do the work; nor have we artillery that will carry Greek fire far enough to reach them; but we have that which will go further than horsemen can ride, and will penetrate what the mightiest artillery would make no impression on—we have money. A million of dollars would lay in ashes New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Pittsburg, Washington and all their chief cities, and the men to do the business may be picked up by the hundred in the streets of these cities. If it should be thought unsafe to use them, there are daring men in Canada, of Morgan's and other commands, who have escaped from Yankee dungeons, and who would rejoice at an opportunity of doing something that would make all Yankeeedom howl with anguish and consternation."

It has just been discovered that Queen Victoria has literary tastes. In 1834, when she was but sixteen years old, a small volume of her poems was published in pamphlet form, for distribution exclusively in the royal family circle. The Queen is now engaged writing the memoirs of her life and times.

Small pox prevails to a limited extent in Burlington and Colchester.

The First Vermont Brigade is, in the new organization of the Army of the Potomac, in the Second Brigade in the Second Division of the Sixth Army Corps. This is Sedgwick's corps. The Tenth Division is in Gen. Morris's brigade. Third Division of the same corps, which is commanded by Gen. Prince.

Mr. Joseph Palkin of Fairlee, fell dead in the store of Messrs. Adams & Allen in that town, on the 20th ult.

Nelson G. Cole, of Southgate, was found dead in his hall, in that town, the 20th ult.

Joseph Gaudier, of Burlington, was brought before Justice Holbeck charged with an assault with intent to kill, on James Burns, a soldier of the Invalid Corps, on the night of the 27th of March. After an examination he was discharged.

Everybody is eager to know about Mr. Ould's visit at Fortress Monroe. He has brought his books as if for a "session" with Gen. Butler.

Morris-town has voted to pay \$900 to nine men who would enlist in the 17th Vermont Regiment, and \$1300 to thirteen men who have enlisted in that regiment without bounty. Morris-town, after paying those sums, will have paid the members of the 17th a little over \$4000.

At a recent railroad meeting at Woodstock, Hon. Thomas F. Powers was appointed a committee to visit New York, and witness the operation of the dummy now running near that city and report at a future meeting.

The Second National Bank of Plattsburgh has a capital of \$100,000. The directors are: E. L. Nichols, Samuel E. Vilas, John W. Lynde, Martin E. Ely, Andrew Williams. Samuel E. Vilas is the President, and Geo. Henry Beckwith the Cashier.

A Washington correspondent states that the government intends to call out all the organized militia of the States for 60 days to occupy certain fortified points, and that the District of Columbia militia will be called to occupy the forts around Washington, so that veterans can be put in the field.

Nathan P. Bowman and David S. Storrs, custom-house officers at Island Pond, have been removed.

Never within our recollection has there been so great a number of real estate changes in Bennington, as there are this Spring. Buying, selling and moving seem to be a sweeping epidemic, while tenements are extremely scarce and hard to be got.—*Bennington Banner*.

The Troy and Boston, the Rutland and Burlington, the Cheshire, the Fitchburg, Rutland and Washington, and the Albany and Boston Railroads are expected to enter into an agreement whereby a continuous and thorough connection shall be secured from Albany to Boston over those roads. For this purpose a track will be laid from the track of the Northern road, in West Troy, over the bridge into the depot of Troy.—*Atlas & Argus*.

At Norfolk, last month, nine hundred and eleven families threw themselves upon the beneficence of the government, and during the past six months nearly twenty thousand dollars worth of fuel has been given out. The city has been divided into twelve poor wards, with one director and several visitors to each.

The bill authorizing the enlargement of the Champlain Canal has passed the New York Assembly by a vote of 69 to 16.

Connecticut has gone for Gov. Buckingham and the Union State ticket by about 6000 majority. (Buckingham's majority last year was 3900.) Copperheadism is evidently going to seed down in Connecticut.

The Albany Commissioners have decided to open the State Canal April 30th.

It is said that Ex-President Pierce's portrait has been removed from the Rotunda of the Capitol and placed among the rubbish of the building.

Columel Grant of Vermont, Barnum of Maine, and Hatch of Iowa have been appointed Brigadier Generals.

The Hyde and Leather bank and the Bank of the Republic of Boston, have reorganized as "nationals." The old Suffolk bank and the Bank of Mutual Redemption are to have meetings to decide whether they will do the same thing.

A special dispatch to the *Post* says much objection is made in the Senate to the passage of the bill allowing the States to fill their quotas in rebel territory.

Secretary Seward has addressed a letter to Mr. W. Abbott, chairman of the House select committee on emigration, recommending the passage of a law to encourage emigration.

At San Francisco money is 2 percent a month. The mechanics there are making a general movement for an increase of wages. Stone cutters want \$5 per diem instead of \$4, and blacksmiths want \$4.50. These rates are high.

Sergeant Christopher Rice of Rutland, who serves in the 10th Vermont, found some steel breast plates used by the rebels and put them in the lining of his waistcoat. Thus iron-clad he struck him over the heart but lodged in his waistcoat pocket, and Christopher went on his way rejoicing.

The New York *Independent* says that a rough estimate, from tabular statistics in their possession, makes the average wages of the 30,000 working women of New York less than fifty cents a day.

There are over two and a quarter millions of gold at Panama for England.

The Army of the Frontier, lately in Arkansas, is said to be in motion for Northern Texas.

The friends of all the unemployed generals are on the job, and are more springing up hourly and are counted as often.

Amos Kendall, who presided at the recent McClellan demonstration in New York, was the man who carried out the robbery of the United States mail when he was Postmaster-General, in saying to those who had broken open the mails at Charleston, S. C., and destroyed portions of their contents: "We owe an obligation to the laws, but a higher one to the community in which we live, and if the law is permitted to destroy the latter it is patriotism to disregard the former."

The Vermont Register says that was never, probably, a time when as much of moderate tonnage, suitable to the coasting and fishing business, brought such high prices in the market as at present.

A large number of influential citizens of New York city, belonging to the Presbyterian, Dutch Reformed, Episcopal, Baptist, and Methodist Episcopal denominations, have just called for the general religious observance of Good Friday this year, after the national troubles and our own individuals and as a people as a rest for fasting, humiliation and prayer.

A New York paper, after an elaborate computation, has discovered that at the present rate of the increase of population in that city there will not be a vacant lot on the island at the end of about sixteen years, and a structure that is erected without removing some existing building. No York will then be a solid and compact city from the Battery to Westchester county.

DEATH OF AN AGED CITIZEN.—Deaf Troy, on Sunday noon, 20th of March 1864, John Tibbitts, aged one hundred and twenty years.

Mr. Tibbitts was born near New York, R. I., Feb. 29, 1764. With his family, he removed to Shaftsbury, some time during the Revolutionary war. There were five brothers of him, the oldest, who removed westward, now some seventy-five years of age, to Oneida county, New York. One of them, and only one, is living, Stephen, in his ninety-sixth year, and no one of them died under 80 years of age.

He has lived a long life. He has seen strange changes in the world. He was born a subject of the British Empire in the earlier part of the reign of George III., witnessed the overthrow of that power in this country, the establishment of our own institutions, our long unparalled prosperity, and now the new and necessary changes which our liberties and prosperity require.

IMPROVEMENTS AT THE VERMONT SIGNAL.—The small house on the signal has been neatly repaired and is occupied by the Sergeant of the signal. The workshop is being rapidly repaired for the soldiers, containing a room and a sleeping room.

The editor of the Rutland *Register* wishes to know what property is to be guarded. If the editor will give us a call we will take him to Arsenal and show him several thousands of considerable value in thousands of muskets are to be sent immediately with the requisite accoutrements.

Of State property, there are here, 1900 muskets and rifles and equipments to match, several hundred rubber blankets, cartridges, tents, also a lot of condemned muskets. *Vermontian*.